

enamel over the back is quite peculiar. Comparable to this, is the variety of *C. neglecta* Sow., described above. The extreme ends of the dorsal line are the only parts of the shell not white enameled and therefore vividly colored.

NOTES ON SOME SPECIES OF CYPRAEA

BY H. C. HIGGINS

We who would keep our shell collections as nearly up to date as possible, rewrite our labels as the rival systematists display their naming energy and question how much longer it will continue. Occasionally we change a label almost with a feeling of sadness as we relegate to the past some such familiar name as *Cypraea pantherina* Sol. and substitute for it *Cypraea vinosa* Gmel. It seems almost like parting with an old friend.

Attention was called to the need of change of name of another well-known shell, *Cypraea umbilicata* Sowb. in May, 1922, by J. H. Gatliff of Melbourne in a paper entitled "Additions to and Alterations in the Catalogue of Victorian Marine Mollusca" read before and published by the Royal Society of Victoria. The change has probably been made by few American collectors, perhaps from the fact that no American publication has made reference to the change, as far as I am aware. However, I am satisfied that Mr. Gatliff is right and that the change should be accepted. He calls attention that Mr. Iredale has proved that the name *C. umbilicata* is preoccupied by Dillwyn. He refers to an article by Iredale, Pro. Malacological Soc., London, Vol. 12, 1916, page 93, in which he says: "Dillwyn in his Index Hist. Conch. List, 1823, p. 32, gives a note identifying List. fig. 12, thus: 'This shell has been arranged as a variety of *Cypraea pyrum*, and as a separate species in Solander's MS. with the name *Cypraea umbilicata*; it has the teeth of a saffron color, and in *Cypraea pyrum* they are whitish.' " This quotation validates *Cypraea umbilicata* as of Dillwyn and invalidates *Cypraea umbilicata* of Sowerby, 1825.

As a new name had to be found for *C. umbilicata* Sowb. the

varietal name *alba* Cox., P. L. S., N. S. W., Vol. IV, 1879, was entitled to become the species name, and the name *C. hesitata* was substituted as a varietal name; hence the white shell formerly known as variety *alba* becomes the species, and the shell known as *C. umbilicata* becomes *C. alba* Cox variety *hesitata* Iredale.

I have in my collection two fine specimens of a *Cypraea* which is closely related to *C. alba hesitata* Iredale, but evidently a good species, *C. armeniaca* Verco. Sir Joseph Verco gave the history of this species which at first he thought might be a variety only, a shell with apricot coloration of *C. umbilicata* Sowb., but upon comparison with Tasmanian forms of that species he remarked: "Mine differ in shape, being more globular, higher and wider, not only relatively, but absolutely. No specimens were found that can be regarded as intergrading with *C. alba hesitata*, and the shell was raised to the rank of a species by Verco.

STREPTOSTYLA CHIRIQUIANA AND S. VIRIDULA

BY J. R. LE B. TOMLIN

STREPTOSTYLA CHIRIQUIANA Martens, Biol. Centr.-Am. Moll., p. 615, Jan., 1901.

Streptostylus flavescens da Costa, Pr. Malac. Soc. London, IX, p. 66, pl. vii, f. 1, Aug. 1st, 1900; not *flavescens* Sh. 1852.

Streptostylus pallidus da Costa, op. cit., p. 185, March 19, 1901, new name for *flavescens* da C.

In a recent paper¹ Dr. Pilsbry mentions that he has not seen this form and surmises that it may conceivably be identical with *viridula* Angas, which he figures on p. 96. The type specimen of *viridula* is very dead and mostly decorticated, measuring 16 mm. by 9½ mm. Pilsbry's fig. 22 C is taken from a much larger shell, but represents the species well. Our series in the Brit. Mus. contains another specimen which measures

¹ Proc. Ac. N. S. Philadelphia, lxxviii, p. 98, 1926.